



PRESS RELEASE

House National Security Committee

Floyd D. Spence, Chairman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN FLOYD SPENCE (R-SC)

ON THE WHITE HOUSE NOMINATION OF

SENATOR BILL COHEN (R-ME) AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

"I congratulate President Clinton for having the courage to choose a Republican advocate for a strong national defense as his next Secretary of Defense. Bill Cohen's credentials on defense and national security issues will put him in a unique position to address many of the intractable problems that Secretary Perry, the Congress and the military services have had to confront during the past few years. With the President's support, having Bill Cohen residing in the "E-ring" should also help ensure continued bipartisan support for doing whatever is necessary to maintain a military that is second-to-none."